

Message Text

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45

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 USIE-00 SS-15 AGR-20 IGA-02 AID-20

A-01 ABF-01 L-03 H-03 DODE-00 DRC-01 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00

NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /132 W

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O R 131303Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1649

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL CHIANGMAI

USUN NEWYORK 9707

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 4885

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TH, BM

SUBJ: NARCOTICS - INCOME SUBSTITUTION PROJECTS FOR
HILLTRIBES IN NORTHERN THAILAND

REF: (A) STATE 179201; (B) BANGKOK 13692

1. IN ACCORDANCE REF A, MISOFF OUTLINED TO MARTENS
ON CONFIDENTIAL BASIS AMEMBASSY BANGKOK'S SUGESTIONS
REF B FOR PROJECTS THAT MIGHT BE UNDERTAKEN IN
HILLTRIBES AREA AND REQUESTED UNFDAC'S COMMENTS.
MISOFF NOTED DEPARTMENT'S DESIRE TO ENSURE THAT
ANY POTENTIAL USG PROGRAMS COMPLEMENT OPERATIONS AND
PLANNING UNDER THAI/UNFDAC PROGRAM. FOLLOWING
CONSULTATIONS WITH VAROUS OFFICIALS OF DND AND
UNFDAC (INCLUDING THAI PROGRAM COORDINATOR WILLIAMS WHO
AT PRESENT IN GENEVA), MARTENS ADVISED MISOFF TO FOLLOWING
EFFECT.

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2. IN GENERAL UNFDAC CONSIDERS SUGGESTED PROJECTS

"EXCELLENT" AND WOULD WELCOME THEM AS CONSTITUTING PRECISELY WHAT UN SEES AS COMPLEMENTING AND FOLLOWING UP ON UN PILOT EFFORTS. UNFDAC WOULD OF COURSE ASSUME IN RELATION SUCH PROJECTS SAME HIGH DEGREE OF COOPERATION AND COORDINATION THAT NOW EXISTS BETWEEN AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AND UNFDAC THAI PROGRAM OFFICIALS.

3. WITH REGARD TO ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGHLAND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH STATION (PROJECT 4(A) OF REF B), UNFDAC CONSIDERS THIS PROPOSAL "VERY VALUABLE". UNFDAC PRESUMES THERE WOULD BE CLOSE COORDINATION WITH UNIVERSITY RESERACH PROGRAM. ALSO ASSUMES RESEARCH WOULD INCLUDE METEOROLOGY, SOILS' MAPPING AND PESTS. WOULD GLADLY MAKE AVAILABLE TO RESEARCH STATION ALL INFO AVAILABLE UNFDAC SIDE.

4. UNFDAC FINDS PROJECT FOR HIGHLAND AGRICULTURAL MARKETING ANALYSIS (PARA 4 (B), REF B) "EXTREMELY USEFUL" AND IN FACT "ESSENTIAL". WOULD HOPE PROJECT COULD COVER PROCESSING AS WELL AS STORAGE OF PRODUCTS. WOULD ALSO HOPE THIS PARTICULAR PROJECT COULD BE STARTED QUICKLY AND COULD BE GEARED TO IMMEDIATE SHORT-TERM NEEDS AS WELL AS LONG-TERM ASPECTS.

5. UNFDAC CONSIDERS PROJECT INVOLVING LOAN TO RTG INSTITUTION TO IMPROVE WEAK POINTS OF NORTHERN MARKETING SYSTEM (PARA 4 (C), REF B) AS "EXCELLENT APPROACH".

6. UNFDAC ALSO WISHES WARMLY TO ENDORSE SUGGESTED PROJECT INVOLVING SUPPORT FOR AN EXPANSION OF AREA DEVELOPMENT TYPE ZONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (PROJECT 4 (D), REF B). FROM UN POINT OF VIEW WOULD LIKE SUGGEST THAT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE PROJECT SHOULD BE INTERNATIONALIZED TO INVOLVE OTHER BILATERAL PROJECTS, NOTABLY THOSE OF AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND FRG. ASSUMES USG WOULD IN ANY CASE HAVE THIS IN MIND.

7. UNFDAC CONSIDERS AS ALSO "EXCELLENT" PROJECT INVOLVING LABOR INTENSIVE PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS (REF B, PARA 4E).
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SUGGESTS THAT CONSIDERATION MIGHT USEFULLY BE GIVEN TO QUESTONS RELATING TO LAND TENURE/LEGAL STATUS OF HILL PEOPLE AND TO LEGALIZATION OF SOME FORM OF COOPERATIVE SCHEMES.

8. IN ADDITION, UNFDAC WOULD LIKE ENTHUSIASTICALLY TO COMMEND REFORESTATION PROPOSAL (PARA 4 (F), REF B).BASSIN

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